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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2921

INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 000901

NOFORN SIPDIS

ISN/CPI FOR CHRIS HERRINGTON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/10/2034

TAGS: PGOV PTER PREL PARM MNUC KNNP KSTC IR

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON UAE RESPONSE TO USG INFORMATION REQUESTS;

COUNTERPROLIFERATION TASK FORCE EXPERTS GROUP MEETING PROPOSED FOR NOVEMBER

Classified by CDADouglas Greene for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- Ref (A) STATE 91868; Ref (B) STATE 88541; Ref (C) STATE 88639; Ref (D) STATE 21426
- 11. (S) This is an action request; please see paragraph 6.
- 12. (S) Summary: Pol Chief delivered ref A demarche on disposition of interdicted cargo to MFA counterproliferation (CP) lead, Deputy Legal Affairs Director Abdullah al-Naqbi, on September 9. In response to the USG requestto schedule thenext meeting of the US-UAE CP Experts Group, to discuss primarily disposition issues, al-Naqbi suggested November, rather than September or October. PolChief also raised the need to schedule EXBS training for UAE officials (ref B); outstanding requests for information on specific CP cases (ref C); and UAE progress toward establishing implementation and disposition regulations and in setting up a CP Office to implement existing and new Emirati export controls under the 1997 law and accompanying regulations (ref D). End Summary.

Progress on CP Implementation Office in Dubai

13. (S) Al-Naqbi reported that much progress had been made in establishing the new CP Office. The head of the office is now MFA (diplomat) Hamad al-Shamsi, who al-Naqbi described as experienced and capable. The office is now staffed with representatives from customs, state security, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior, and an addition MFA member. At the moment, al-Naqbi explained, the office is dealing with interdictions on a case by case basis, but is setting up its database and website for licensing and tracking, along with other computer-based capabilities which will be needed once the implementation and disposition regulations are in place. Al-Naqbi promised to take Pol Chief to the Dubai office to see the facilities and meet the staff following the Eid holiday.

Training

14. (S) Al-Naqbi said he had distributed ref B US training courses and schedule options to the appropriate Federal and Dubai agencies but had not received any responses. He acknowledged the need to be more proactive and said he would make clear the need to assign and schedule training in the short-term to the agencies' representatives on September 14.

UAE CP Committee Meeting, Joint US-UAE Experts Meeting

15. (S) Al-Naqbi lamented the multiple postponements of meetings of the UAE working group due to Ramadan, but promised the committee would meet September 14. Al Naqbi shared the Agenda items for the September 14 meeting: U.S. training; progress report from CP Office head al-Shamsi; approval to move forward on the UAE's draft letter providing additional information on the M/V ANL Australia to the UNSC

on violation of UNSCR 1784.; and preparation of disposition regulations to submit to UAE cabinet for approval.

16. (C) Action Request: Al-Naqbi suggested November for the next meeting of the US-UAE experts group, and agreed on disposition as the primary agenda item. Post requests guidance from department on possible November dates for a Washington meeting, as well as suggested add-on visits for Emirati officials to CP-related sites in the US. End Action Request.

New Information on Interdiction Cases

 \P 7. (S/NF) The UAE is preparing a supplemental letter to the UNSCR 1874 Committee on the violations report it submitted on the interdiction of the M/V ANL Australia. Al-Naqbi agreed to pass to pass us an unofficial copy of this letter at the same time it is submitted in New York.